

RODRIGUEZ RIDES ONE LAST TIME

THE "FURIOUS 7" STAR DOESN'T HOLD BACK. PAGE 22

metro

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Weekend, April 2-5, 2015 www.metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly



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Muslims lambaste new SEPTA bus ads

PAGE 02

Sen. Robert Menendez indicted over bribes

PAGE 10

NCAA hoops: And then there were four

PAGE 37



MAD no more

TV. Will Don Draper die? **Jon Hamm** knows and he isn't telling you. The "Mad Men" star takes us through the end of the iconic show. PAGES 18-21



Jon Hamm is allowed to grow a beard now that he's no longer on "Mad Men." The show's last seven episodes premiere on AMC Sunday at 10 p.m. / GETTY IMAGES

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1 NEWS

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1 'VIRAL VIDEO: Couple receives surprise wedding at movie theater'

2 'Geek Girl in Hollywood: In praise of fan fiction'

3 'EXCLUSIVE: Advocates push de Blasio to revamp how NYC recycles its commercial waste'



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A SEPTA bus featuring a controversial anti-Islamic ad in Center City on April 1. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Muslims 'hurt' by new SEPTA ads

Freedom of Speech. Philly residents weigh in on new SEPTA bus ads that criticize the Koran.

On Wednesday SEPTA buses first began rolling with ads the transit agency was forced to run after losing a legal battle on First Amendment grounds.

"Islamic Jew-hatred: It's in the Qu'ran," state the ads, which feature a picture of Hitler.

Eighty-four articulated buses operating out of three depots will carry the

ads, SEPTA said.

That message doesn't sit well with local Muslims.

"That's wrong," said "Amira Muhammed, 30, of Northeast Philly, of the ad, after she got off a Route 33 bus carrying the new advertisement. "That's not in the Koran. It says we have to respect other religions."

Muhammed was shocked to learn that SEPTA lost a legal battle with the American Freedom Defense Initiative (AFDI), which paid \$30,000 for ad space, and that SEPTA is required to run the advertisements.

"What we need to do is go in front of City Hall and say that this needs to stop," she said.

SEPTA response

In response to these ads, SEPTA changed its advertising policy to forbid political and issue-advertising.

- Attempts to extend the AFDI advertising beyond the initial four weeks could be denied based on that new policy.

Other commuters were troubled as well.

"It's not true," Jahliel Washington, 27, of West Philly, said of the advertisements' message — that the Muslim faith dictates hatred of Jews.

"Our peoples' land and

language are practically the same," he said, pointing out that the word "Salaam," meaning "peace," which Muslims use as a greeting, is similar to "Shalom," the Hebrew word for peace, which is also used as a greeting amongst Jews.

John Phillips, 26, an activist, said he was "disgusted" by the new ads.

"As Muslims, we're told we're anti-American," Phillips said. "What did we do? You call us terrorists."

Pamela Geller, founder of the AFDI, did not respond to requests for comment.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us



Quoted



"You allow Pamela Geller and her group to spread hate against us? ... This is not freedom of speech. This is hate speech."

John Phillips, 26, Southwest Philly, activist



"They're trying to divide us. It's just sad."

Jahliel Washington, 27, West Philly, subcontractor/cook



"I think it's a disgrace. God loves everybody."

PJ — Philly Jesus, aka Mike Grant

Holy Thursday. Women's group renews calls to Archdiocese



SEPAWOC holds witness in a past year. / SEPAWOC

A group of women who believe they should be allowed join the priesthood will return to the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul Thursday to argue their case.

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Women's Ordination Conference (SEPAWOC) has held this witness — holding banners, signs and talking to passersby about their cause — for 35 years.

They don't expect a warm welcome.

"It has been hostile to indifferent," said Maureen Tate, 61, of West Philly, a member of the group who will participate in the event today, of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's reaction to their presence.

The women will gather during Chrism mass — a Holy Thursday mass when all priests in the

Archdiocese of Philadelphia will accept the oils used in the Holy Week services and throughout the year.

"Because all the priests are present, it's our chance to be a visible witness to them," Tate said. "We get some priests who clearly are supportive of what we are doing, and every once in a while give us a 'Hi,' but generally we get stares and glares from

the cathedral."

Archdiocese spokesman Ken Gavin defended the male-only clergy and said women hold half of diocesan professional and administrative positions.

But Tate said women priests could benefit the church.

"Jesus' own ministry was very inclusive of women and embraced all marginalized people," she said. **SAM NEWHOUSE**

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PHILADELPHIA

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Suspect in officer killing blames dog

Homicide. A Darby woman's excuse for allegedly shooting her cop boyfriend is worse than the 'dog ate my homework' bit.



Simba, Finch and Hudson's dog. / FACEBOOK

When Tyaina Finch was initially interviewed by police in the shooting death of her boyfriend, off-duty Darby Police Officer David Hudson, she had a story that sounded a little far fetched.

Finch, 27, was charged Tuesday with homicide and related offenses in Hudson's death in a case that has made headlines in part because her initial explanation blamed the dog.

According to a state-

ment she gave to detectives, she and Hudson were play fighting when their yellow Lab, Simba, came between them. She looked down to see the dog carrying Hudson's .40-caliber Sig Sauer service weapon in its mouth.

"Ms Finch stated she took the gun from the dog's mouth and turned toward the victim stat-

ing 'I asked you to put this....' at which time the gun went off," Detective Thomas Scarpato wrote in a police affidavit.

If that story sounds untrue, it's because it probably is. Finch later recanted, claiming in court documents that she killed Hudson during a domestic dispute that turned violent.

But the question lingers, would a dog actually pick up a gun?

"I would find it very surprising that a dog would pick up a very heavy, metal object," said Krista Milito, co-owner of The Philly Pack, a dog training school.

That's because dogs don't really like metal.

DAN KELLEY
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us



Phanatic offers salutations to the sun

Phoebe Phanatic joined in on a free lunchtime yoga class in Dilworth Park on Wednesday. City Hall's Dilworth Plaza has been hosting group exercises for the last few weeks for the public to get their stretch on. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Harrisburg

Court docs: Sandusky to file new appeal

Court documents indicate that former Penn State defensive coordinator plans a new appeal of his child sex abuse conviction.

Sandusky, 70, is serving 30 to 60 years in state

prison for molesting 10 boys.

The former coach immediately appealed his conviction in 2012, claiming the judge gave incorrect instructions to the jury. That appeal failed.

In a filing with the Centre County courts, Sandusky's lawyer Alexander Lindsay sought permission to use secret grand

jury transcripts as part of the new appeal.

The new appeal will come under the state's Post Conviction Relief Act, but it is not known what arguments Lindsay will make on Sandusky's behalf.

The actual appeal is expected to be filed in coming weeks, the filing states. **METRO**

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DEAL OF THE DAY

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Montco

Chain-saw murder-suicide

The deaths of a husband and wife found with chain-saw wounds in a Lower Moreland home have been ruled a murder-suicide, the Montgomery County Coroner's Office said Wednesday.

Police were called to the home on the 1100 block of Country Lane shortly before 1 p.m. Tuesday by a 14-year-old boy who reported finding his parents unresponsive with lacerations from a chain saw.

County Coroner Walter Hoffman said Nicole Pappelman, 43, died from gaping sharp force injury to the abdomen. She was also stabbed and choked. He said she was murdered by Christopher Pappelman, 48, who died of sharp force injuries to his abdomen and right thigh. His manner of death was ruled a suicide. **METRO**

Uh-oh. Kean drops Common as speaker

A New Jersey university that said this week hip-hop artist Common would deliver a commencement speech to its graduating class reversed course on Wednesday after complaints from local police about one of his songs.

Kean University in Union said on its website it had dropped Common as a speaker after receiving complaints from police about the rapper's song "A Song for Assata" that supports convicted cop killer Joanne Chesimard, also known as Assata Shakur, The Record newspaper reported.

Kean posted on Twitter earlier in the week that the 41-year-old rapper and actor, who grew up as Lonnie Lynn but took the stage name Common, would speak to its graduating class of seniors on May 21.

"Common will not be the commencement speaker this year," the university then posted on its



Common / GETTY IMAGES

website. "We apologize for the premature announcement."

A university spokeswoman did not respond to requests for further comment. Chesimard was convicted in the 1973 killing of a New Jersey state trooper, escaped from prison and fled to Cuba. U.S. authorities have long attempted to extradite Chesimard, who was the first woman added to the FBI's Most Wanted Terrorist list. **REUTERS**

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Five things you need to know

Ark. governor rejects bill after pressure over discrimination

Republican Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson on Wednesday rejected a religion bill he had said he would sign into law, reversing course after a firestorm of criticism assailing such legislation as discriminating against gays and lesbians.

In a news conference at the Capitol in Little Rock, Hutchinson said he was sending the Religious Freedom Restoration Act back to the Republican-controlled legislature to be rewritten to better balance tolerance for diversity and protections of religious freedom.

The governor said his own son had asked him to veto it, adding a personal element to the intense pressure to reject

the bill he had already faced from businesses such as Arkansas-based Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's biggest retailer.

While Hutchinson spoke, scores of protesters outside waved the rainbow flag of the gay rights movement.

"We want to be known as a state that does not discriminate, but understands tolerance. That is the challenge that we face," Hutchinson said. "We just didn't get it perfect through that legislative process." **REUTERS**



HUTCHINSON
GETTY IMAGES

Report of plane passenger video

A video of the final seconds aboard the Germanwings plane that crashed in France last week has been discovered, reports said on Wednesday.

The video was found on a mobile phone belonging to one of the passengers killed on the plane which investigators say German pilot Andreas Lubitz deliberately flew into a mountain in the French Alps, Bild newspaper reported.

The scenes captured on the video were chaotic and very wobbly, said Bild, adding screams and shouts of "My God" could be heard, indicating the passengers knew what was happening.

REUTERS



Calif. orders 25 percent water usage reduction

California Gov. Jerry Brown, acting in the face of a devastating, multi-year drought, ordered the first statewide mandatory water restrictions on Wednesday, directing cities and communities to reduce usage by 25 percent.

Brown, who made the announcement at a ski resort in the Sierra Nevada mountains, said the move, which comes as California reports its lowest snowpack levels on record, would save some 1.5 million acre-feet of water over the next nine months.

REUTERS

US targets overseas cyber attackers with new sanctions program

President Barack Obama launched a new sanctions program on Wednesday to target individuals and groups outside the United States that use "malicious" cyber attacks to threaten U.S. foreign policy, national security or economic stability.

In an executive order, Obama declared such activities a "national emergency" and allowed the U.S. Treasury Department to freeze the assets and bar other financial transactions of entities engaged in destructive cyber attacks.

It is the Obama administration's latest effort to get tough with hackers. **REUTERS**

John Lennon's first wife Cynthia dies

Cynthia Lennon, first wife of late Beatle John Lennon, has died, her family said.

"Cynthia Lennon passed away at her home in Mallorca, Spain following a short but brave battle with cancer," according to a family statement on her son Julian's website.

Cynthia Lennon, 75, married the former Beatle in 1962 and the couple divorced in 1968 when he left her for Japanese artist Yoko Ono.

REUTERS



CYNTHIA
LENNON
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IMAGES

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Hollywood Hills

Getty oil heir's death seen as likely accidental or natural

Andrew Getty, the grandson of billionaire oil tycoon J. Paul Getty, died from what appears to have been accidental or natural causes.

The 47-year-old heir to the Getty oil fortune was

found dead on Tuesday afternoon at his Hollywood Hills home, his parents said in a statement in which they asked for privacy for the family. Police said there was no immediate sign of foul play.

"At first glance, it does not appear to be a criminal type of act. But that could change," Los Angeles Police Department spokesman Com-

mander Andrew Smith said Tuesday night.

He said the investigation was in its early stages and witnesses were being questioned, though no one had been taken into custody.

The medical examiner assigned to the case was expected to begin her investigation on Wednesday afternoon, and an autopsy would

be performed on Getty's body on Thursday at the earliest, the coroner's watch commander, Mario Sainz, told Reuters.

Los Angeles County Coroner's Office spokesman Ed Winter told reporters at a Tuesday news conference that Getty's death appeared to have been from either accidental or natural causes. **REUTERS**

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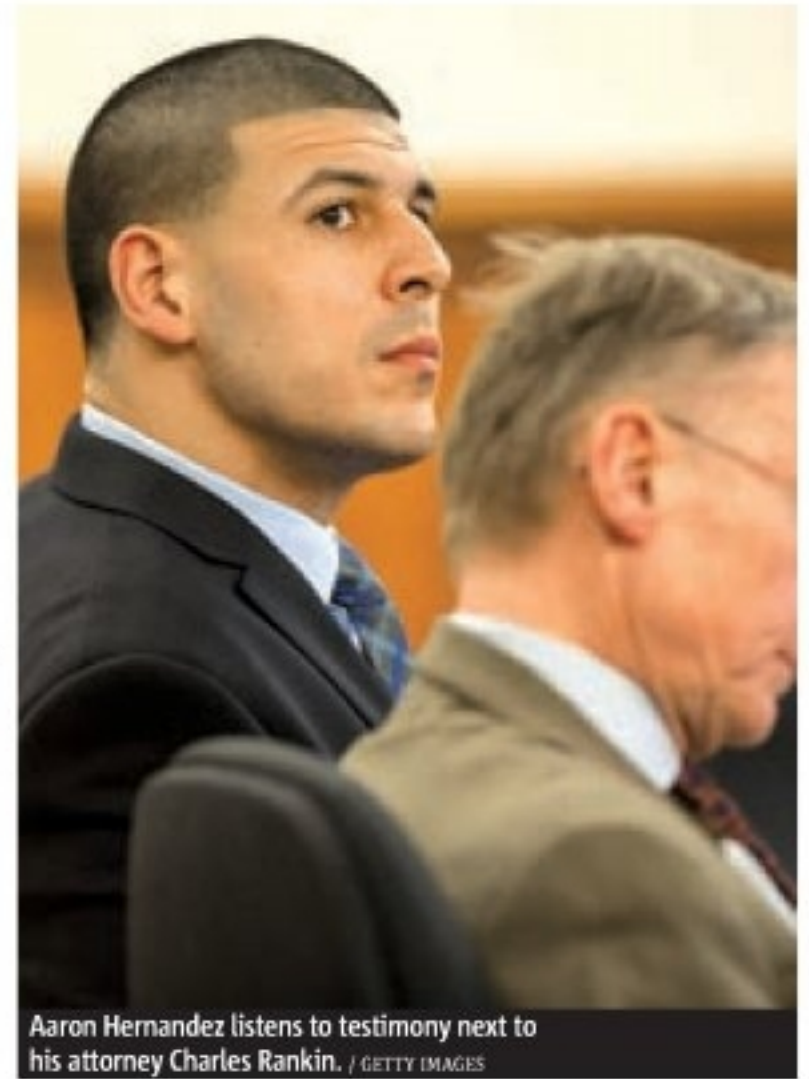
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Aaron Hernandez listens to testimony next to his attorney Charles Rankin. / GETTY IMAGES

Hernandez might have handled gun

Murder. Hernandez is charged with killing Odin Lloyd, who was found shot dead in 2013.

Ounces of pot

4

Bradley testified he was Hernandez's marijuana dealer before they became friends, and described him as a "chain smoker" who bought the drug in quantities of up to 4 ounces at a time.

A former friend of Aaron Hernandez testified on Wednesday that he saw the ex-New England Patriots player handle a gun similar to the one prosecutors contend he used to murder an acquaintance, and that Hernandez had a distrustful nature.

Alexander Bradley, who had been friends with the former tight end, was permitted to tell jurors that Hernandez had access to the type of pistol he is accused of using to murder semipro football player Odin Lloyd, but not about a separate 2013 incident in which Bradley contends Hernandez shot him in the face.

Bradley, who has sued Hernandez over the February 2013 shooting, testified he saw someone handing Hernandez a black Glock pistol in a Florida hotel. The murder weapon in the case has not been recovered, but prosecutors have said it

was a black Glock pistol.

"Mr. Hernandez held it, looked at it, and that was pretty much it," said Bradley, adding that Hernandez put the gun on a chair when the two left the hotel room.

Earlier, the judge, Susan Garsh, allowed that testimony, reasoning that it "could have been, might have been, the murder weapon."

Bradley charged in a civil lawsuit last year that Hernandez shot him in the face, causing him to lose his right eye. Bradley never filed a criminal complaint.

Prosecutors contended that incident is relevant to the Lloyd murder since it shows that Hernandez had no trouble shooting his friends. The defense has argued that Hernandez would not have killed Lloyd because of their friendship. **REUTERS**

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Menendez indicted on ties to alleged bribery scheme

Staying. Aides have said that Menendez is expected to keep his seat and fight the charges.

Democratic U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez's indictment on corruption charges on Wednesday raised the possibility of Republicans gaining a 55th Senate seat to strengthen their hand in policy fights with President Barack Obama.

Federal prosecutors indicted the New Jersey senator on charges of accepting gifts from a donor and friend, Florida-based ophthalmologist Salomon Melgen, in exchange for using the power of his Senate office to benefit Melgen's personal and financial interests. Melgen was also charged.

Menendez, 61, a senior member of Senate foreign policy, banking and finance committees, had said previously he had done nothing wrong and had no plans to leave his seat. He has described his relationship with Melgen as a close friendship.

Senate leaders, including some Republicans, stood behind Menendez for



Menendez is also a senior member of the Senate Banking Committee, which oversees Wall Street regulation, and the tax-law-writing Senate Finance Committee. / GETTY IMAGES

Immigration reform

12M

Menendez has been a central player in the push for immigration reform, urging a pathway to citizenship for nearly 12 million undocumented residents of the United States.

two years amid previous reports he was being investigated, none of which led to any actions against him.

If Menendez were to step down, New Jersey's Republican governor, Chris Christie, would likely appoint a Republican replacement to serve until a special election. That would bring the number of Republicans in the Senate to 55, one

seat closer to the 60-seat "super majority" needed to overcome Democrats' procedural roadblocks and advance legislation.

Gaining that incremental edge could mean the difference in a political fight over confirming Loretta Lynch, Obama's nominee to be the next U.S. attorney general, who is opposed by many Republicans. That vote is expected to be very close.

A Menendez resignation could also put Republicans just one vote shy of clearing the way for passage of a human trafficking bill with anti-abortion language, which Democrats have blocked.

REUTERS

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Canadian-born

**Joni Mitchell
hospitalized
after being
found
unconscious**

Groundbreaking musician Joni Mitchell, one of the stars of the Woodstock era, was "in good spirits" at a hospital in California on Tuesday after being found



Joni Mitchell / GETTY IMAGES

unconscious at her home, her official website said.

A statement on her website said the 71-year-old singer-songwriter had regained consciousness while being transported by ambulance to a Los Angeles-area hospital.

Mitchell was undergoing medical testing in the intensive care unit but was "awake and in good spirits," the statement said.

Further details on her condition and the nature of the medical emergency were not immediately provided. Representatives for the musician did not respond to requests for comment.

TMZ.com said that she was hospitalized after authorities received a 911 call from her Los Angeles home about an unconscious woman. **REUTERS**



US Secretary of State John Kerry looks out of the window of his room at the Beau-Rivage Palace hotel during a break in Iran nuclear talks in Lausanne, Switzerland. / GETTY IMAGES

John Kerry extends Iran talks

Negotiations.

All sides have described the talks as fragile.

World powers

6

Six world powers — the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China — aim to stop Iran from gaining the capacity to develop a nuclear bomb. Tehran wants to lift international sanctions that have crippled its economy, while preserving what it says is its right to peaceful nuclear technology.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and his German and French counterparts extended marathon talks in Switzerland on Wednesday for a second day beyond a self-imposed deadline to reach a preliminary agreement with Iran on its nuclear program.

A diplomat close to the talks said late on Wednesday that a deal could be announced within hours but had not yet been reached, and the talks could still collapse.

Kerry and German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier announced they would stay at least until Thursday. In a potentially hopeful sign, French Foreign Secretary Laurent Fabius returned for more talks after flying back to Paris the previous day because progress had been too slow.

The sides were meant to reach a preliminary accord in the Swiss city of Lausanne that would provide an outline for a final deal

to be reached by June 30. The preliminary deal was meant to be achieved by midnight on March 31, but the sides are under pressure not to go home empty handed.

The powers and Iran said they had moved closer, but each said accused the other of refusing to offer proposals that would break the deadlock.

Washington said it was willing to walk away from the talks unless the sides could agree on a preliminary framework.

The talks represent the biggest chance of rapprochement between Iran and the United States since the Iranian revolution in 1979, but face skepticism from conservatives in both Washington and Tehran.

REUTERS



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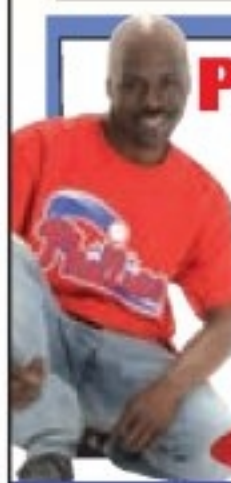
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REX USA

Zayn Malik 'to be cut off' giant One Direction sand sculpture

Zayn Malik may be sliced off a giant One Direction sand sculpture after sensationally quitting the boy band. The larger-than-life carving of all five lads has been made by artist Lee Tetzner at SandWorld in Weymouth. Lee says: "It took around a fortnight to complete. I've been sculpting professionally since 1989, but this was a huge challenge. Fortunately, Harry, Niall, Liam, Zayn and Louis each have a very distinctive look, which helped a lot. It's such a shame Zayn has left the band. My sculpture is out of date before anyone's even seen it!" SandWorld's director Mark Anderson said he may take a saw to the work and cut Zayn off. REX USA

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NEWS 16

Navigation. Voice-controlled GPS helmet, technology to help bikers

Motorcyclists will no longer have to rely on maps or GPS systems, both of which require riders to take their eyes off the road, once a new Russian smart helmet goes on sale this summer.

The perils of navigating while on a motorbike are obvious: Drivers can't read maps, because looking at a navigation system means taking their eyes off the road.

So Russian engineers have invented LiveMap — a GPS helmet which displays simple navigation tips on the visor.

CEO Andrew Artshchev got the idea from fighter pilot technology.

"I learned about the concept of aviation helmets and decided to create a civil motorcycling helmet on that model, which would show not target detection for pilots, but navigational information — to turn right or left and so on."

The android-based



LiveMap was developed with a quarter of a \$1 million grant by the Russian Ministry of Science. / LIVEMAP

Cost**\$2K**

The final version will be unveiled in the US in May, and go on sale in August, costing 2,000 dollars each.

lightweight helmet contains GPS and voice control. Its heads-up translucent display system allows riders to

access navigational information without looking away from the road.

"This is a prototype of the visor. The image is received from here to the visor and is reflected to the human eye. This is also the optics. The Pico Projector (mobile projector) is located here and the electronics are behind it."

REUTERS

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INSIDE: JOHN HAMM GRIEVES FOR THE END OF 'MAD MEN' • JOHN SLATTERY DOESN'T ALWAYS WATCH 'MAD MEN' • MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ VS. BURNING MAN POSERS • 'WOMAN IN GOLD' TRIES TO COAST ON THE MEGA-COOL OF HELEN MIRREN • RINKO KIKUCHI LOOKS FOR 'FARGO' BOOTY IN THE DEADPAN 'KUMIKO' • 'DANNY COLLINS' IS ALMOST AN OK OLD PERSON MOVIE • REVIEW OF 'EFFIE GRAY' • FEMINISM IS FOR WOMEN TOO • THE WORD

Jon Hamm grieves for the end of 'Mad Men'



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The actor says Don Draper may turn out to be a kindly grandfather.

Jon Hamm finished playing Don Draper almost a year ago. But because the last season of "Mad Men" was split over two years, he's still talking about him — and, of course, not talking about what happens in the final seven episodes. Visiting the show's native city, Hamm talked about the grieving process, which scenes or episodes are his favorites (spoiler: he has no favorites) and the difficulty of change.

How he's handling post-"Mad" life

"You go through the five stages of grief. Whoever invented those was a genius. ... It was eight months ago, so there's a process of leaving, and we all kind of did our own thing. Between then and now, people have done movies and plays, moving on with their lives. ... Those are definitely little reminders that everything ends."

Don vs. change

"He struggles with a lot of things, and sometimes wants to change but doesn't want to do the work. Because the work sucks. It hurts. And it dredges up a lot of s— you don't want to deal with."

On spoilers

"I could literally write down the last scene of 'Mad Men' for you. But why would that be fun? Other than you would know something no one else knows. But then would you want to watch the episodes? Would you give a s—? Reading the last page of a novel doesn't really tell you anything, because there's no context. You know how it ends but you don't really know how it ends. You know the last thing. Matt told me how it ended four years ago. Or he told me an idea he had for the way it might progress. But that was 30 episodes ago. He didn't tell me how we're getting there."

Don the dad

Don is very aware of what he's done, is doing and will do to his kids. He saw it happen to himself. He was terribly parented and he doesn't want to be a bad parent. ... I think he sometimes has a hard time expressing it. That's one of his struggles. Maybe he's the guy who becomes a great grandpa. I had a very good relationship with my grandfather, and I would talk to my aunts and uncles about him and they were like, 'Yeah, he's great, but you didn't know him as a dad.' He's mellower."

What was Don's most meaningful affair?

"I think they're all meaningless."



Don Draper (Jon Hamm) returns for the second half of the final season of "Mad Men," premiering Sunday at 10 p.m. on AMC. GETTY IMAGES

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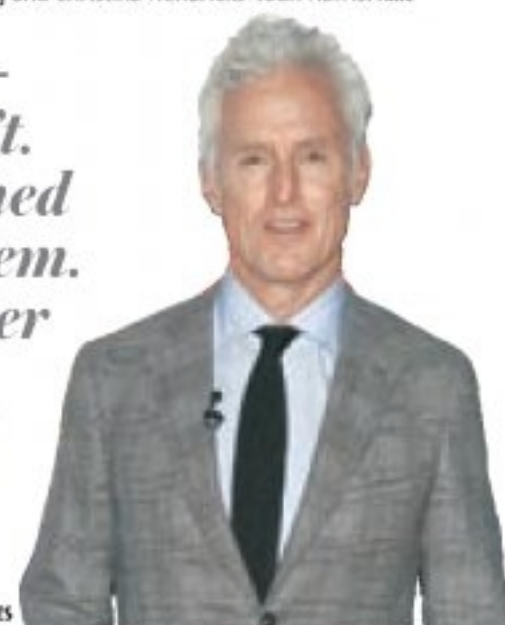
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most of them.
The further
it went
the less I
watched.*

John Slattery

GETTY IMAGES



'Furious 7'

Director: James Wan
Stars: Vin Diesel, Paul Walker
Rating: PG-13

.....

The threatened last ride (yeah, right) for the "Fast and/or Furious" franchise pits the remaining racing demons against Jason Statham's Deckard, the eviler brother of the bad guy from the last one. There's also something about a super-surveillance program that needs to be stopped and there's also this part where Vin Diesel and Paul Walker drive a car through three skyscrapers.

The lowdown: Maybe Diesel's onto something: Perhaps "Furious 7" does deserve a Best Picture Oscar. It certainly aims

to be no less than the ultimate action movie, which, for some filmgoers, translates into the ultimate movie, period. It doesn't quite get there, but it is sufficiently next level ridiculous/glorious. What started out as a modest series that simply reignited the old Roger Corman speed junkie drive-in favorite has — pretty slowly, it must be said — intelligently designed itself into a live-action cartoon. The characters can now not only come back from the dead in future installments but fall off of buildings and treacherous rocky cliffs or slam their cars into other ones, and emerge only needing to crack their necks before flinging a quip.

What's lacking is what lacks in all sensation-heavy, sense-handicapped modern blockbusters, which is story (and sense). "Furious 7" quickly tires

John Slattery doesn't always watch 'Mad Men'



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Don't worry: John Slattery hasn't seen the new episodes of "Mad Men" either. In fact, he still hasn't caught up with the last half of the seventh and final season, which gives the actor one last go as Roger Sterling, the show's most dapper and quip-flinging ad man.

You're a bit behind on the show. Do you go out of your way to watch them?

I generally don't. I've watched most of them. The further it went the less I watched.

Why was that?

Probably vanity. The older I get the less I want to see myself. Then it would come on and I'd catch up.

Do you feel over the years Roger has warmed-up a bit, become more human?

I think he always had revelatory moments. Even early on, in the episode where he's sitting in the train station bar near Don's house, looking at younger women, saying, "After 30, it's like a light goes out." It's not the most humanitarian moment, but it is a rueful moment that you see he has. Matt [Weiner, creator and showrunner] would let you in; it doesn't mean you necessarily have to like them.

No more "Mad Men" also, alas, means no more Weiner demanding that there be no spoilers.

His "mean speech," which we called it. I'll miss those. Just before the table-reads he'd give that speech: "Don't tell your mother, your agent, anybody. You will be flogged. And this is not a performance, but it will be judged as one." The poor people who were in those readings for the first time were probably so scared. Random moments like those I'll miss.

The future

You directed a film, "God's Pocket," in between seasons. Are you hoping to do more?

I have a story idea that I think might work as, I don't know, something — as a film or TV. TV has changed already from when we started. People are doing one-off TV shows or shows like "Peaky Blinders," where they do six or eight episodes. I know that's very European. But even network shows are only doing 15. I like the idea of long-form television. I would gladly do another TV show.

Do you get a lot of offers for roles that are in the Roger Sterling vein?

That happens, sure. But it's pretty easy to stay away from them.

You just turn them down.

You just say no, yeah. My agent knows: "I know you're not going to do this, but this came through." It's not hard to avoid playing characters who smack of this one, especially because none of them are as good.



In "Furious 7" The Rock channels Martin Balsam in "Death Wish 3" by shooting a helicopter gun. UNIVERSAL PICTURES

of its revenge plot, and even Statham too, and segues into another plot entirely, which at least means plenty of Kurt Russell's Belgian beer-swilling CIA dog. (Alas, it also means wasting second baddie Djimon Hounsou, the most tragically wasted actor in modern cinema.) But all's good because "7" truly — and arguably even more so than the last still ridiculous two entries — never lets up and never lets the laws of the universe dictate events. And yet the craziest part may be how a film with no ceiling deals with deceased star Paul Walker. It doesn't fake-kill him à la Oliver Reed in "Gladiator" (or Poochie). Incredibly, a film that flaunts its lack of restraint closes with something approaching taste and arguably even elegance. MATT PRIGGE

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Michelle Rodriguez is back behind the wheel of a sweet speed racer for "Furious 7," in which she reprises her role as Letty, the once-presumed dead girl of Vin Diesel's Dominic. UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Michelle Rodriguez vs. Burning Man posers

"Furious 7" star Michelle Rodriguez talks counter-culture, fast cars and getting back into leading roles



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I'm sitting with Michelle Rodriguez in a plush RV parked in a wide-open parking lot in East L.A., and we're supposed to be talking about "Furious 7," her latest in the fast-driving series. But the setting keeps dragging her thoughts to a completely different over-the-top event: The uber-progressive annual desert festival Burning Man. "This reminds me of Burning Man. My trailers never look this clean," she says with a laugh. "I've been four times."

And you're going back this year?

Oh yeah. It's hard to describe. I just couldn't

encompass it in a sentence. But be careful. It's kind of like a great song, you know? When it becomes popular, it gets watered down. You want to get it before the disrespectful people pop up who really just don't give a f— about anything but partying.

In the film you guys show up in Abu Dhabi each driving a sports car. Can't you ever carpool?

[Laughs] Hell no, man. Obviously they each need their own ride. It's like skin, man. Everybody's got their own. I was so pissed when Ty-Boogie [Tyrese Gibson] got the Bugatti. But I guess my character's not that flashy anyway. She's practical.

You could pick whatever you wanted to drive.

I wish, dude. They always give me the whatever American muscle thing they're sponsoring at the moment. [Laughs] I get the contemporary version

of the American car, and Vin gets to play with the old school vehicles. I've got to say, as far as the car industry goes, I'm not too impressed with American cars these days. I feel like old-school cars from the 1960s, it was all about that. "Sex appeal! You want this!" The curves on those suckers! What the f— happen to the curves?

How much are you thinking about diversifying, maybe trying some comedy?

It's so crazy! I haven't been the lead in a movie since "Girl Fight," and I'm getting older. Before I say au revoir to acting, I'd like to carry something and take the responsibility for once. I've held back on so many [offers] because I didn't like stuff or I was being too picky. I've isolated myself from the world for a very long time. I'll take a chance, you know what I mean, and try something comedic. If it sucks, it sucks. If it's great, it's great. I think it's about time to try something new.

"I'm not too impressed with American cars these days. I feel like old-school cars from the 1960s, it was all about that."

Michelle Rodriguez

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'Woman in Gold' tries to coast on the mega-cool of Helen Mirren



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Here's the true story of Maria Altmann (Helen Mirren), an Austrian Holocaust survivor who, in her 80s, fought the Austrian government for the paintings — including a handful of Gustav Klimt's — stolen from her family by the Nazis.

The lowdown: Great events don't necessarily make great stories. Case in point: the tale of Maria Altmann — or at least the way "Woman in Gold" tells Altmann's tale. Granted, there's not a whole lot to work with. Altmann is in the right from the start, the Austrian officials are hissable baddies, and that means there's little to do, dramatically speaking, except watch her stick to her guns amidst frustrations. Altmann has no major decision to make,



Helen Mirren (with Ryan Reynolds) largely jokes her way through "Woman in Gold." THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY

and therefore there's little for the great Dame Helen to do but crack jokes, act flirtatious/regal and occasionally look ashen. She's this thin film's flashiest trinket, meant to distract viewers from the gaping hole that is the film's plot.

Still, better no character arc than the stock one given Maria's partner in

crime: her inexperienced, fumbling lawyer (Ryan Reynolds), who has to overcome the odds, grow a pair and assert himself in front of scary Austrian bureaucrats. The other way "Woman in Gold" pads out its length is more noble: Maria's story is juxtaposed with periodic flashbacks to her youth in

'The Woman in Gold'

Director: Simon Curtis
Stars: Helen Mirren, Ryan Reynolds
Rating: PG-13

.....

Vienna, depicting a moneyed and cultured existence slowly laid to waste. But these scenes too are stock: pedestrian, overly tasteful views of horrors moviegoers have seen a million times before, distinguishable in the Holocaust cinema canon only because it focuses almost exclusively on wealth porn. Poor Tatiana Maslany, who plays the young Altmann, barely gets the chance to flesh out a character. Like much in the film, she's a mere pawn.

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Rinko Kikuchi plans her trek to find the not-real money from a movie classic in "Kumiko the Treasure Hunter." **AMPLIFY**

Rinko Kikuchi looks for ' Fargo ' booty in the deadpan ' Kumiko '



MATT PRIGGE
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How's this for an original plot? In "Kumiko the Treasure Hunter," Oscar nominee Rinko Kikuchi ("Babel," "Pacific Rim") plays a Tokyo loner who finds a beat-up VHS copy of the Coen brothers movie "Fargo" and becomes convinced the money Steve Buscemi's hood buries in the snow along a North Dakota highway is real. So she heads off to America to find it, and won't listen to people who point out that, you know, it doesn't exist.

The lowdown: Deep in "Kumiko"'s heart is a tale of powerful loneliness and anguish. It's even inspired by a not-quite-true story: a Tokyo woman really did head to Minnesota, where

she died, and a series of misunderstandings led to the urban legend that she perished looking for "Fargo" money. (In truth, she committed suicide in a hotel.) But "Kumiko" is not that sad, because Kumiko is not that sad. As played by Kikuchi, she's almost comfortable in her isolation, going out of her way to disabuse coworkers and Tokyo's denizens of the notion that she desires their company. Even when, upon hitting America, she makes some companions (a lonely aging woman, a bumbling cop), the friendships are brief. She goes it alone.

American indie filmmakers David and Nathan Zellner take a gentle approach to the story, one that's mostly told in deadpan long takes, with developments that lean toward the absurd. Things keep threatening to turn

'Kumiko the Treasure Hunter'

Director: David Zellner
Stars: Rinko Kikuchi, David Zellner
Rating: NR

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grim, and by the end it seems there's only one way out. But the Zellners find a perfect ending (and a perfect ending song), albeit one that could only come from the movies. And they have the ideal star in Kikuchi: a game comedian who milks anti-social behavior for laughs like no other. Few screen performers since Buster Keaton have made this much out of doing almost nothing at all.

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'Danny Collins' is almost an OK old person movie



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Al Pacino plays a music superstar who once had true artistry but sold that out for a handful of undying "Sweet Caroline"-style hits. (No offense, Neil Diamond.) He realizes late in life that he must change, which also means trying to connect with the angry one-night-stand spawn (Bobby Cannavale) he's never met.

The lowdown: The every now and then almost tolerable "Danny Collins" earns bonus points for what it doesn't do. When movies even deign to make leads out of olds, they invariably treated like babies. "Danny Collins," improbably, doesn't feature a single Viagra joke. That's nothing, though that's most of what it has going for it.



Al Pacino plays a superstar singer who is definitely not based on Neil Diamond in "Danny Collins."
BLEEKER STREET

On one hand, this is a film that charges into exploring deep regrets and emotional pain; on the other, it winds up rectifying them in ways even less dignified than Collins' musical output. Not only does Cannavale's Tom

'Danny Collins'

Director: Dan Fogelman
Stars: Al Pacino, Bobby Cannavale
Rating: R

come around far quicker than he should, but he's also gifted with a possibly fatal disease. The whole of "Danny Collins" works like that; like its protagonist, it makes some good strides, then ruins it by falling back on laziness. Still, at least it has Annette Bening. As a cranky but flirty hotel manager and Collins' not-exactly-age-appropriate crush, she sells scenes that probably should be grating, proving again that she's weirdly great at light comedy.

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'Effie Gray'

Director: Richard Laxton
Stars: Dakota Fanning, Greg Wise
Rating: PG-13

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Having recently played the underage love of a dying Errol Flynn in "The Last of Robin Hood," Dakota Fanning again plays the young paramour of an older gentleman, here the neglected wife of 19th century art critic John Ruskin (Greg Wise). Naturally her affections wander over to strapping painter John Everett Millais (Tom Sturridge) — but after all, he is a pre-Raphaelite.

The lowdown: Like Mike Leigh's "Mr. Turner," "Effie Gray" is a film about paintings whose cinematography itself could be called "painterly." Its rural England is ensconced in transportive fog; its interiors are musty and shadow-strewn. If the images were on a museum wall one would stare at them. One can just do that anyway. Very little happens in "Effie Gray," and what happens doesn't happen very fast. That would be fine — ideal, even — if the material itself wasn't painfully, tediously blunt, hitting one over the



Dakota Fanning plays the young wife of a snooty art critic in "Effie Gray." ADOPT FILMS

head with its smackdown of those heartless old-timey (and one-note evil) men while making you cheer for the cool proto-progressives they're keeping down.

One of those — Elizabeth Eastlake, herself an art critic and who has, as it happens, an actual awesome husband — is played by Emma Thompson, who also wrote the script. Thompson won an Oscar for punching "Sense and Sensibility" into a movie shape. Without Jane Austen, though, she seems only capable of blandness, though she greedily saves the most lively character for herself. Every time Thompson's off-screen, which is nearly the entire length, we're stuck with broad Greg Wise (the IRL Mr. Emma Thompson) declaiming broadly about the evils of women while Fanning does her reticent thing. But at least it's all handsome.

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FEMINISM IS FOR

A few weeks ago, I wrote a piece about men who are feminist allies. The response to writing something positive was louder than I expected. It got me thinking about talking about the good things that are happening for women in Hollywood as well as pointing out what's wrong.

Now, I know we ladies get the argument, "But you have 'Hunger Games'! See, there are ladies in lead roles" — as though that one film makes up for the utter dearth of female-led fare. I know how annoying that is. I mean, I'm giving myself a concussion with all the face palming. That said, it's still important to talk about the progress we have made, rather than just addressing the negative.

This week, Anita Sarkeesian put out the first video in Feminist Frequency's new series, "Positive Female Characters," and though it likely won't get the hits that talking about the negative ones do, it's just as important. Sometimes it's disheartening to constantly hear stories about how bad everything is, how we seem to be backsliding as a culture in terms

of misogyny and harassment of women online. It's time to talk about the good for a change.

Disney is doing a live-action "Mulan" film. Whatever your thoughts about remakes, this is a pretty fantastic story starring a non-Caucasian woman. (Please, oh, please don't cast a white girl.) We just got a new trailer for "Mad Max: Fury Road," and Charlize Theron totally owns it. People like Keira Knightley are speaking out about the need for more female stories. Anthony Mackie just talked about how important it is that Marvel is introducing more female characters so girls have more representation. Angelina Jolie made a wonderful and inspiring speech about the importance of being different at the Kids Choice Awards, saying, "Different is good. When someone tells you that you are different, smile and hold your head up and be proud."

Oh, you'll hear me rail against misogyny in Hollywood, have no doubt about that. We need to talk about things that need to change and point out how we can do better, but we also need to take a look at how far we've come and be proud.



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"Mulan" is set to come back — not only a great female role model, but one who isn't Caucasian. **DISNEY**

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Jamie Dornan is actually a stalker

"Fifty Shades of Grey" star Jamie Dornan is quickly learning that there are some things better kept to yourself during interviews. Like the fact that while prepping for his role as a creepy serial killer in the BBC series "The Fall," he got some hands-on experience in stalking. "The first [season], I did a couple of things to try and get inside [my character's head]," he tells the Los Angeles Times. "I did ... can I get arrested for this? Hold on. ... This is a really bad reveal — I, like, followed a woman off the train one day to see what it felt like to pursue someone like that. I really kept my distance and I was aware, it was kind of half-hearted, 'cause I was going like, 'If she turns around, is she going to notice?' She got off a few stops earlier



Just out for a nice afternoon stalk. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

than I was planning so I was like, 'Alright, I'll have to commit to this here.'" So what do we say? Would you mind terribly

if you turned around to discover Jamie Dornan was following you home? I mean, for purely professional reasons?

Patton Oswalt schools Twitter over Trevor Noah mess

In response to the hubbub over new "Daily Show" host Trevor Noah's scandalous Twitter history, comic Patton Oswalt did what amounts to one of the longest and loudest mic drops in the social media platform's history, tweeting out a 53-part deconstruction of a simple joke that poked fun at hypersensitivity, political correctness and the folly of dissecting humor. It's a pretty spectacular read. It's really worth checking out in its entirety, but some of his choice phrasings include "The pronoun 'he' in the 2nd part of the joke should, again, NOT be taken as a patriarchal assumption" and "Jokes should always entertain. EVERY SINGLE PERSON WHO HEARS THEM." And then there are the group of tweets in a row toward the end that are just the word "problematic" over and over again. Comedy!



Ryan Reynolds' refreshing approach to parenting

Ryan Reynolds is still pretty new to being a dad, but he's already rife with worry, even if he is getting a bit ahead of himself. "I worry that my daughter's going to want to go into show business," he tells the "Today" show's Willie Geist in an interview. "You know, you



worry about really stupid stuff. And you sort of sit there and go, 'Oh gosh, is she going to want to do this?' I like to whisper in her ear, like, really normal everyday jobs. 'You're going to be a flight attendant. A barista! Just normal, wonderful jobs

that you can have a nice, normal life [doing]. But for now? Things are cool, actually, worry-wise. To wit, the "Van Wilder" star has coined a phrase that could very well be a life motto for just about anyone, not just babies: "There is no problem that a breast won't fix." I'm seeing bumper stickers and T-shirts, people. Maybe even mouse pads.

Avril Lavigne had Lyme disease, apparently

OK, I officially feel bad about all the Nickelback jokes. Avril Lavigne has announced that she's been suffering from Lyme disease since October. "I had no idea a bug bite could do this," Lavigne tells People magazine. "I was bedridden for five months.



I felt like I couldn't breathe, I couldn't talk and I couldn't move. I thought I was dying." But don't worry, Lavigne says she's now "80 percent" better and has a new outlook on life. "This was a wake-up call," she says. "I really just want to enjoy life from here on out."

THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

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Daily video

'Interstellar' gets an honest trailer

They're not pulling any punches with this one: "From the director who apparently gets a lifetime pass because he made 'The Dark Knight,'" it's last year's most divisive blockbuster, "Interstellar" — or "This is Why We Can't Have Nice Science Fiction." Matthew McConaughey "stars as Matthew McConaughey, barely



SCREEN JUNKIES, YOUTUBE

pretending to be a guy named Coop." There are plenty more fantastic digs at Christopher

Nolan's big, big movie, but things get pretty spoiler-filled, so proceed with caution.



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A tall glass of beer with a thick head of foam stands next to a baseball with red stitching. The background is dark and textured.

Chickie's and Pete's

1526 Packer Ave., South Philly

The 24,000-square-foot South Philly location of Chickie's And Pete's Crab House and Sports Bar can fit you and all of your baseball-loving, Crab Fries-devouring friends. The spot's claim to fame is being voted North America's Best Sports Bar by ESPN Mobile. It's just a few blocks from Citizen's Bank Park, and inside you'll find multiple bars, massive TV screens and more than 25 beers on tap.

Locust Rendezvous

1415 Locust St., Center City

"The Vous" feels a bit like it's being held together with duct tape, but that's part of its charm. The beer is cheap, there's always something on special and the game-watching crowd is appropriately enthusiastic without breaking your eardrums. Plus they've packed an awful lot of TVs into not a huge space. If beer isn't sufficient, try the rotating Shot of the Week — unless it's the Swedish Fish one, in which case, as your friend, we have to advise against it.

City Tap House

3925 Walnut St., University City

Beer drinkers can choose from 60 drafts at City Tap House, from Bud Light to unusual craft brews. Can't decide? For \$16 get a flight of four different beers. The menu goes way beyond wings and potato skins, with options like mussels, Korean short rib tacos, seared salmon and plenty more. The newer location at 2 Logan Square is another safe bet.

Field House

1150 Filbert St., Center City

Field House took all of the TVs for itself. With more than 35 high-def screens, you'll have no trouble finding the right angle to catch the game — though we can't promise you'll find a seat in this always-packed spot. Choose from more than 40 local beers and order the Bavarian soft pretzel, mac and cheese squares and fried pickles to snack on. The crowd skews young and excitable.

Take me out to the sports bar

Baseball season begins on Monday — here's where to pull up a bar stool for all the action. **RACHEL VIGODA**

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Jazz in the garden

Jason Evenchik of Time heads north for Heritage.

A.D. AMOROSI
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Heritage opened its doors yesterday at 914-22 N. Second St., a double-wide Northern Liberties spot operating as several things at once: a bar/restaurant with an outdoor garden, a jazz-focused live venue and a sky-lit greenhouse whose vegetables and micro greens are for both your dining and viewing pleasure.

Owner Jason Evenchik has already done many of these things at Time in Midtown Village. "Great bar food and live jazz is always my fallback position," he says.

But at Heritage the emphasis is on chef-driven, East Coast fare and a tap-only craft beer menu. "No bottles or cans," says co-owner Terry Leach, who also runs Garage in South Philly with Evenchik. "The food is the focus, but everything else here is pretty cool too."

Start with the look of Heritage, whose design, and much of its execution, came from Evenchik: "I got tired of paying people for 3-D models," he says.



Chef Sean Magee

Sidle up to the bar at the new Heritage. ALL PHOTOS REESE AMOROSI

The space has a warehouse feel, including a bright entryway with a chandelier fashioned from brass and percussive instruments. Behind the 40-foot walnut bar is a 36-beer tap system.

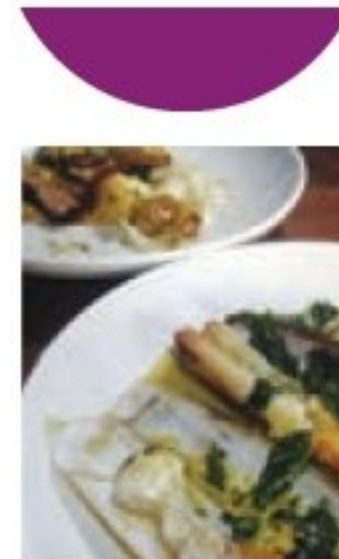
Leafy foliage hangs

from every space, including the roof and the indoor pilot seed house, where microgreens and roots vegetables grow. Evenchik is currently planning Spanish moss and other hanging plant life for Heritage's garden

area.

There's also a small stage for the live jazz that Heritage will feature seven nights a week. The lineup will be a rotating mix of adventurous local musicians, such as singer Pete Gaudioso and saxo-

phonist Tom Moon. Time hosts musicians, too, but "we're going to be different than Time in that we're planning a Sunday brunch, starting soon, that features jazz, bluegrass and folk — all quiet music," Evenchik says.



What you'll eat

As for the food, Evenchik wanted something "more grown up than Time." He enlisted Chef Sean Magee to integrate the vegetables grown at Heritage into the dishes.

Expect crudo with Maryland crab claws, meaty razor clams from Cape Cod, and Jersey fluke. The smoked brisket is made with locally raised beef.

"This is pub fare done with love," Evenchik says.

Heritage has 60 seats indoors and 40 in the garden.

Listings

ART

Richard Taransky and Sandy Litchfield

Through May 17
Hooloon Art
53 N. Second St.
Free, 215-560-8167
www.hooloon-art.com

Architecture unites these two artists. Litchfield's colorful works are inspired by 19th century maps, but Taransky's are entirely made up.

THEATER

'Liberace!'

Through April 12
Walnut Street Theater
3025 Walnut St.
\$30-\$45, 215-574-3550
www.walnutstreettheatre.org

This play tells the story of Liberace, whose flamboyant showmanship made him a camp icon in the middle of the 20th century, even as it often served to trivialize his considerable piano skills. His diverse repertoire, ranging from Chopin to ragtime, forms the backbone of the play, which probes the inner life of the man behind the glitter.

MUSIC

Dahi Divine

Saturday, 7 p.m.
The Bainbridge Club
1529 Bainbridge St.
\$20, 267-342-9378
www.eventbrite.com

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Richard Avedon: Family Affairs

Ongoing

National Museum of American Jewish History, 101 S. Independence Mall East, \$11-\$12, 215-923-3811, www.nmajh.org

The National Museum of American Jewish History presents two bodies of work from the great, enormously influential photographer Richard Avedon. The first is a set of four portrait murals inspired by the cultural revolutions of the '60s and '70s. The second is a set of portraits for Rolling Stone entitled "The Family," made in advance of the 1976 election.

"The Element," so named for the mysterious something each band member contributes. Soul, gospel, funk and West African rhythms are part of the musical cocktail.

Matthew E. White

Saturday, 8 p.m.
World Cafe Live
3025 Walnut St.
\$12-\$14, 215-222-1400
www.worldcafelive.com

Singer-songwriter, bandleader of the avant-garde jazz group Fight the Big Bull, producer and co-founder of Spacebomb Records, Matthew E. White is a true captain of DIY industry. His 2012 debut, "Big Inner," won praise for its big arrangements and down-home Americana rock sound as timeless as it is fresh and his follow-up, "Fresh Blood," just dropped.

DRINK

Split Thy Skull
Barleywine Festival

Saturday, 1 to 6 p.m.
Tattooed Mom
525 South St.
No cover, 21+, 215-238-9880
www.tattooedmomphilly.com
Tattooed Mom hosts the 20th edition of Split Thy Skull, with barleywines from a dozen different local and national makers and a banh mi and pretzel buffet — which you'll want to take advantage of, because these strong beers pack a punch.

DANCE

Star Wars

Thursday through Saturday

Iron Gate Theater
3700 Chestnut St.
\$10-\$12, 215-898-2312
www.vpu.upenn.edu/platthouse

Strictly Funk, Penn's hip-hop/contemporary/avant-garde dance troupe, performs their spring show, which they promise will be "filled with intergalactic wonders." So we'll assume "Star Wars" is meant more in the George Lucas sense than the Ronald Reagan sense.

COMEDY

Deon Cole

Thursday through Saturday
Helium Comedy Club
2031 Sansom St.
\$23-\$31, 21+, 215-496-9001
www.heliumcomedy.com
You have seen comic Deon Cole

as Charlie on the new sitcom "Black-ish," and he's landed another role on the upcoming series "Angie Tribeca." He's also been a writer for Conan O'Brien since 2009, where he stars in a recurring segment called "Deon Cole Breaks Down the News," which usually ends in Cole demanding for someone to "shut the hell up."

MATTHEW DINARO

THEATER



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'The Fair Maid of the West'

Through April 18

Broad Street Ministry, 315 S. Broad St., \$15-\$20,
800-838-3006, www.brownpapertickets.com

Philadelphia Artists Collective presents this English Renaissance play by Thomas Heywood, a swashbuckling adventure-comedy reflecting England's appearance as a not-to-be-messed-with naval power during the reign of Elizabeth I. The maid in question is Bess, a saucy bartender-turned-privateer who embarks on a series of high-seas adventures, as talented at finding trouble as escaping it. No doubt Queen Bess was quite amused.

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Havana highlights



Old Havana



Capitolio

As the diplomatic ice melts between the U.S. and Cuba, Havana is set to be a hot destination for American travelers. From its colonial palaces to its sultry music, Cuba's capital is all the more appealing for having been off limits all these years.

La Habana Vieja (Old Havana) is at the heart of this vibrant city. Its cobbled streets wind past dilapidated mansions, Baroque churches and restored colonial

squares such as Plaza Vieja with its ornate pastel facades. The elaborate neoclassical buildings, with their decorative iron balconies and dappled courtyards, have earned it a Unesco World Heritage designation.

The sounds of salsa and son (traditional Cuban music) are everywhere, drifting from open windows and strolling mu-



Musicians at the Malecon Barrier

Take a bright yellow Cocotaxi, a two-seater buggy powered by a motorcycle engine, for a fun ride along the Prado, past

and modern hotels. Stop for a drink at the landmark Hotel Nacional, a legendary Mafia haunt before the revolution; there are wonderful sea views from the terrace. Nearby is Plaza de la Revolution, site of the Jose Marti Memorial, the tallest structure in the city, which affords sweeping views.

Other sights of interest include Havana's impressive harbor forts, El Morro and La Cabana, and several art and history museums. The Ernest Hemingway Museum, set in the writer's former home, is just outside the city. A visit to the La Corona or Partagas cigar

Stop into La Bodeguita del Medio, where writer Ernest Hemingway drank mojitos.

the domed Capitolio and the Gran Teatro de la Havana. Cuba is most famous for its vintage 1950s American cars, lovingly preserved, polished and at your service as taxis and tour vehicles. This is the best way to explore greater Havana.

Motor along the Malecon — the glorious 5-mile esplanade and sea wall bordering the harbor — with the sea breeze in your hair, past weathered buildings

factories offers a fascinating look at one of Cuba's main industries.

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More Cuban cities to see



Camaguey

Trinidad

This is Cuba's prettiest town. Its lovely colonial buildings are among the best-preserved in the Americas.

Camaguey

Another colonial gem, Camaguey's beautiful squares include Plaza San Juan de Dios, ringed by small, brightly colored houses, and Plaza del Carmen, with its life-like sculptures of local people at work and rest.

Santiago de Cuba

Cuba's second city is a melting pot of Afro-Cuban traditions, with a famous Casa de la Trova, or music hall.

Santa Clara

The Battle of Santa Clara was a decisive victory in the Cuban Revolution. On the outskirts of town, the Che Guevara Monument and Mausoleum pays tribute to this much-loved national hero.



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Milford, Jim Thorpe and Honesdale each have a lot of charm. Dating back over 200 years, they're filled with Victorian and colonial-era

buildings. Many of the houses are inns and B&Bs. Hawley, in particular, has a two-mile stroll along a river and through the downtown area — particularly nice on a spring day.

Pennsylvania has no sales tax on clothing. That's an excuse (if you need one) to browse through the boutiques, but don't miss the galleries and specialty stores in the towns. If name brands are your passion, head for The Crossings Premium Outlets in Tannersville (www.premiumoutlets.com). Over 100 major clothing and accessory outlets stores are there. Check the website for monthly in-store promotions. Antique lovers can explore treasure

Spend a day browsing through the boutiques and galleries.

troves of collectibles and rarities at antique barns and malls.

Pampering is high on any to-do list of girlfriend getaways. Local spas offer every possible treatment — from exotic wraps and scrubs to all-natural body conditioning. You can choose from day spas and destination spas/resorts.

For dining, there are options for whatever you're in the mood for.

The area is remarkably diverse, with Thai and Japanese restaurants, Irish pubs and French bistros, along with farm-to-table and casual American menus.

If you are too frazzled to deal with planning, many resorts and inns offer packages that include accommodations, discounts for dining and shopping, spa treatments and welcome gifts.

The Poconos website (www.800poconos.com) is very comprehensive and easy to navigate and has information on spas, accommodations and more.

INSIGHT GUIDES | FRAN SEVERN

Spa Shawnee



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Hoop-la at the Basketball Hall of Fame

Haven't had enough of basketball with March Madness? Visit this museum in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Named after James Naismith, who is credited with creating the game in 1891, the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame (www.hoophall.com) is a devotee's dream. The building itself is a tribute to the sport: It's a giant silver basketball. Inside, you'll see uniforms, balls used in famous games and trophies. Interactive areas explain the history of the game and development of rules (like the 24-second shot clock). Walk along the upper balcony to view the photos and learn the histories of more than 300 inductees: famous and obscure players,



KINDRA CLINEFF

coaches, referees, teams and colleges. You can start speculating about which players from this year's Final Four will someday be on the walls. And there are plenty of hoops hanging throughout the building with visitors invited to take a shot or two.

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The Philadelphia Housing Authority Board of Commissioners will hold an open public Special Meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2015, at 10:00 am at 12 S. 23rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Kelvin A. Jeremiah / President & CEO



Letters to the editor

New energy
saver
will be
expensive
nightmare

Smart meters are being forced on unaware and uninformed captive rate-payers in order for the government to ration everyone's electricity. (Of course, the elites will have as much electricity as they want.)

Because the EPA has decommissioned hundreds of electric generating plants, and will not issue permits to build new electric generating plants, the amount of available electricity is decreasing.

The Smart Meters will monitor your every move, 24/7/365, in order to produce an "energy profile" on you. Then, faceless bureaucrats will decide if you are using too much and involuntarily cut your flow of electricity back to a level they deem "fair."

Every ratepayer will pay \$300+ for their Smart Meter, an unprecedented tax on every household for utility company equipment.

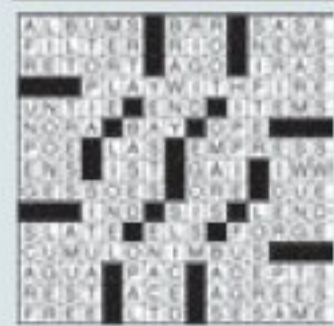
Smart Meters are touted as a tool to save consumers money, for instance, by using time-of-day pricing. Fine, if you want to do your laundry at 3 a.m. Smart Meters are sold as being "green."

But they are not—they create a net loss of energy. Smart Meters have no security from hackers: zero, nada, none.

Anyone driving by your home can find out everything about your electric use and develop a profile they can exploit.

TOM MCCAREY, VIA EMAIL

Wednesday's answer

AMERICAN DOLLARS
AND CHANGE

Let's face it: Andrew Jackson has had a good run on the twenty-dollar bill.

Ever since 1928 when he elbowed portly Grover Cleveland aside, Jackson's long face and stormy hair have graced that currency even though as the seventh president he staunchly opposed the whole idea of paper money. He also loved duels, and had a musket ball stuck in his lungs for much of his life, but that's another story.

Anyway, now Old Hickory may be on his way to the woodshed. A movement is underway to put a woman's face on the twenty.

And frankly, this is the best idea since French Toast Crunch. Women have done as much to build this country as men, have suffered many injustices along the way, and frankly it's about time they get a little more respect.

A lot of possibilities have been booted around: Eleanor Roosevelt, Rosa Parks, Rachel Carson, and Chrissie Hynde to name a few. (Actually I'm not sure about that last one, but seriously that would be awesome.)

Opinion

TOM
FOREMAN

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT
FOR CNN



Does it matter that no woman has ever held the Oval Office? In a cosmic sense, of course it does. But for this purpose, no.

Although most of our bills bear the glaring visages of former presidents, a couple sport Treasury Secretaries, and of course there is Ben Franklin. Sure, he was a printer, inventor, statesman, postmaster, chess player, and philanthropist of great renown, but he was no chief executive. The point is if we don't disqualify people for their credentials, it doesn't seem fair to do it over their genitals.

I know traditionalists may screech, and to be fair I'm pretty accustomed to seeing Andy's huge forehead peeking out of my wallet. I also have serious doubts about whether this movement will go anywhere.

But the first part of currency is "current." Not really, but pretty close. And in our current version of America, recognition for women ... like some bills ... is past due.

CNN-POLITICS

Sudoku: Easy and hard

	5				2			9
				1	9			7
		8	3	4				
			4				9	3
7		3	9	2	8	4		5
9	6				5			
				9	3	8		
2			7	6				
3			8				1	

9		2	4					6
7			5	3				1
5		3						
	9	5	3				4	7
4	6				1	3	8	
						8		3
3				8	6			5
6					3	2		4

How to play

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Horoscope

Aries | March 21-April 20
It's time to finalize the deal that will bring the highest reward. If you don't put in the time and effort now, a great opportunity will be missed to realize your full potential.

Taurus | April 21-May 21
Financial gains are looking good. You should put any emotional issues on the back burner while you focus on getting ahead.

Gemini | May 22-June 20
Things may appear to be running smoothly, but you should take a closer look. Personal matters are heading in a negative direction due to a lack of nurturing on your part.

Cancer | June 21-July 22
Confrontations are best avoided. Work on a creative pastime that will keep you away from disgruntled colleagues. Don't waste time worrying about things that haven't happened.

Leo | July 23-Aug. 22
If you put your best foot forward, you will reach your highest potential. You are no stranger to hard work, so keep the momentum going and financial rewards will come to you.

Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Don't allow disagreements to fester. You are best off letting your true feelings be known when settling troublesome matters.

Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22
A pleasant surprise lies ahead. Take a few hours to enjoy good times with friends or loved ones. All work and no play leads to stress and unhappiness.

Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Things are looking up. Now is the time to try something that you have always wanted to do. Take a trip, join a theater group or sign up for a creative course that intrigues you.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Stop dwelling on things you cannot change. If you put personal and emotional issues aside, you will have the energy to get a lot done. Keep busy.

Visit us online at **Metro.us**.

Use your smartphone to find today's crossword answers! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle.



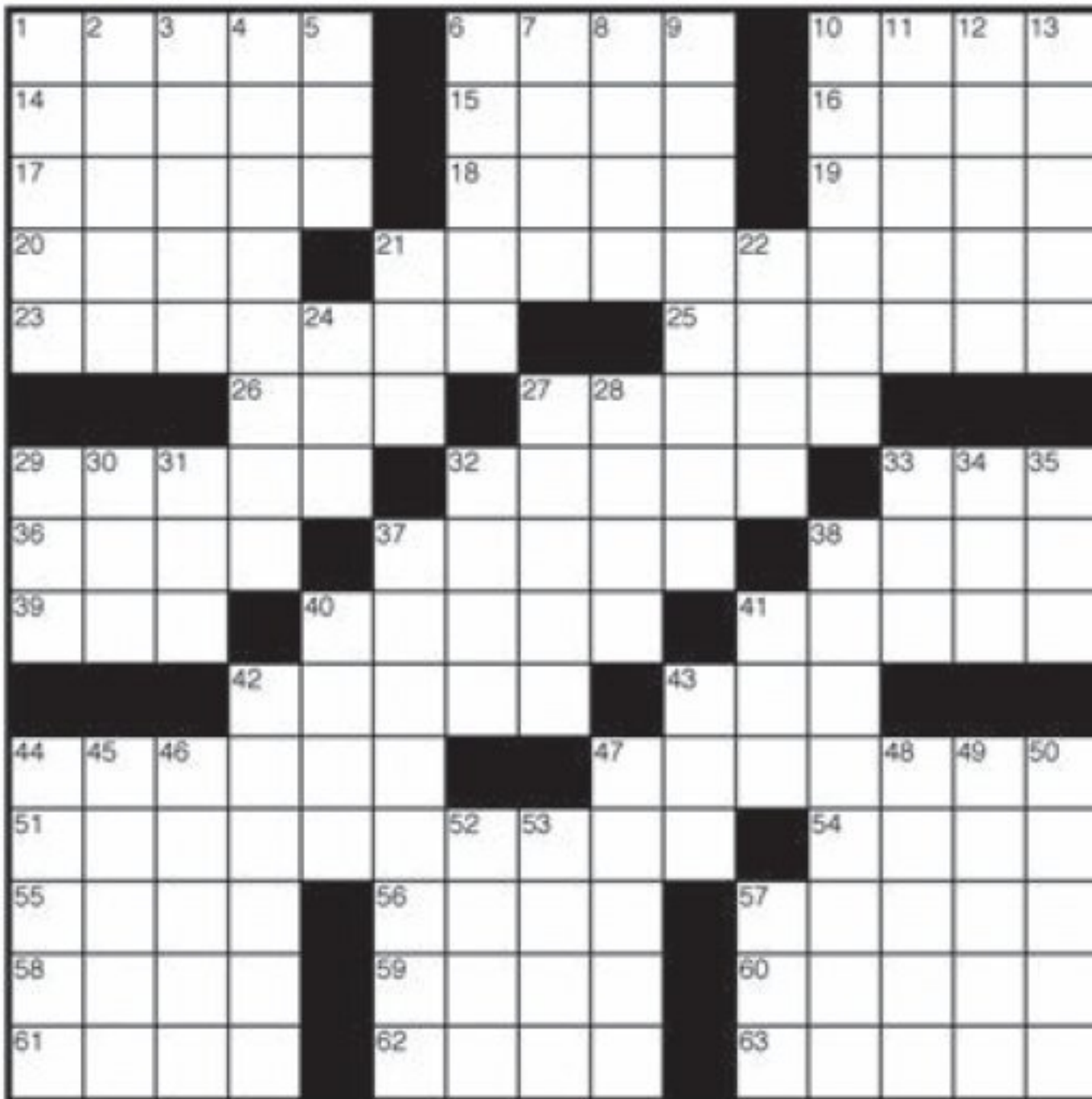
Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20
A hasty decision could have negative repercussions. This is not a day for wheeling and dealing. Spend some quiet time with loved ones and recharge your batteries.

Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18
With patience and determination, you will be able to make things go

your way. Don't be deterred by someone who doesn't know you well and who fails to understand your motives.

Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20
You will need to think on your feet. Your day isn't likely to go according to plan. Use your wit and gumption to overcome any obstacle. EUGENIA LAST

Crossword



Across

- 1 Not real
- 6 Carbon deposit
- 10 Oktober ending
- 14 Get accustomed
- 15 El —, Texas
- 16 Cuba, to Castro
- 17 Grid coach Don —
- 18 "Tickle Me" puppet
- 19 Curb
- 20 Split
- 21 Remittance man (2 wds.)
- 23 Tabloid seller
- 25 Armadas
- 26 Loud noise
- 27 Amigo's farewell
- 29 35mm setting (hyph.)
- 32 Mitt
- 33 Software problem
- 36 Livy's route
- 37 Make glad

Down

- 38 Ms. Sedgwick
- 39 Look closely
- 40 Famous last words
- 41 River rapids
- 42 Garage jobs
- 43 Oxygen source
- 44 Globe
- 47 Deer's rack
- 51 Tortilla melt
- 54 Sledgehammer
- 55 Coffee dispensers
- 56 Flutie or Williams
- 57 Obsidian, once
- 58 British composer
- 59 Vulcan's forge
- 60 Synthetic fabric
- 61 Industrial giant
- 62 An evening out
- 63 Try extra hard

Down

- 1 Doesn't eat
- 2 Committee type (2 wds.)
- 3 Dern of films
- 4 Grandeur
- 5 Flight board info
- 6 Relieve
- 7 Powers of old movies
- 8 "Semper fi" grp.
- 9 Had a break (2 wds.)
- 10 Casts a fly
- 11 Ms. Lauder
- 12 Driving hazard
- 13 Fills a pipe
- 21 Make illegal
- 22 Gin-fizz flavor
- 24 Ice-cream serving
- 27 Cumming and Thicke
- 28 Specks
- 29 "A pox upon thee!"
- 30 Dirty place

Down

- 31 Tiger's peg
- 32 High spirits
- 33 Provo inst.
- 34 Website
- 35 Mobster's piece
- 37 Fixed firmly
- 38 Lenin's inspiration (2 wds.)
- 40 A psychic may see one
- 41 Perch
- 42 The preferred evil
- 43 Santa — winds
- 44 Hunker down
- 45 Cat's murmurs
- 46 Reddish dye
- 47 Birdbath slime
- 48 Ancient Rome's emblem
- 49 Gossip's delight
- 50 Bias
- 52 Scintilla
- 53 Fontanne's husband
- 57 Stoooge with bangs



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SPORTS

A bitter end

Dunphy proud in defeat

Temple coach Fran Dunphy is no stranger to season-ending heartbreak. "I thought we had a really terrific season for this particular group," the coach said. "I thought they played hard ... it would be nice to still be playing on Thursday night but I'm very proud, certainly of our seniors."

Temple ends its season with a whimper in NIT

NIT Tournament.

Miss opportunities and key injuries cost the Owls a title.

Will Cummings and Quenton DeCosey each missed open three's with under two minutes to go on Tuesday that would've knotted the Owls (26-11) even with the Miami Hurricanes and maybe forced overtime. Instead, each fell just short and so did their season as the Hurricanes (25-12) came away with an 80-57 win in the NIT Semifinal.

"I thought we obviously shot poorly," Owls coach Fran Dunphy said. "I think most of them were decent looks, there was prob-

ably two or three that were rushed, that we could have maybe shot-faked and gone to the basket, maybe a little drive-and-kick action. The three-point shot didn't help us."

As a team, the Owls shot just 9-of-39 from field (23%) and were a putrid 0-for-15 from beyond the arc in the second half. No misses were more painful than the late ones from Cummings and DeCosey.

Despite shooting woes, Temple still clung to an 43-41 lead with 8:33 to play in the second half. Temple's best defensive player, Jaylen Bond, was forced to leave the game due to intense cramping shortly after. With Bond out, the Hurricanes went on an 8-2 run and never relinquished

By the numbers

17

Temple increased its win total over a year ago by 17, the most in college basketball.

the lead.

"[Playing without Bond] hurt," Cummings said. "I mean he's a big part of what we do in the game on defense and offense. Not having him was a vital piece, but at the end of the day, we have other guys who can step up."

One player who did step up was Temple's lone freshman, Obi Enechionya, who tallied career-highs in points (17) and blocks (5) along with eight rebounds.

His efforts weren't



Obi Enechionya could be the Owls' next star. / GETTY IMAGES

enough, but Dunphy is thrilled about his future.

"I thought he was terrific. For a freshman to do what he did and not only was he good on the offensive end, he had a number of blocks that sort of saved us," Dunphy said. "He's got a great future ahead of him and he played terrific tonight."

After the NCAA tournament snub, the Owls were hoping to prove they deserved a bid by adding

their only national tournament banner since 1969. Instead, the Owls, who will return with three starters and add its best recruiting class in team history, will take another shot next season. But it's hard to be disappointed by the 17-win increase from a season ago. The future looks bright on North Broad.

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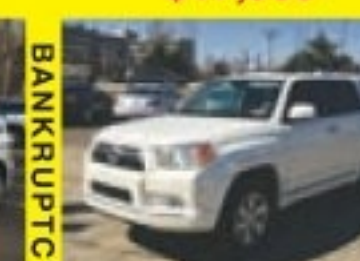
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And then there were four

NCAA. Four college basketball powerhouses have risen to the cream of the crop.

What can college basketball do for an encore after four gripping dramatic regional finals that punched the tickets for the blue bloods of college basketball? Cable television rating records have been shattered and Saturday's Final Four viewership promises to equal all those "Seinfeld" reruns all balled up into one.

America has the teams it wants.

Private school power Duke, with the game's all-

time winningest coach and three fantastic freshmen talents. The decision to start Matt Jones and slide Justise Winslow at the four spot for Amile Jefferson has made the Blue Devils a more athletic and defensive minded unit.

The young guys of Kentucky, representing the Evil Empire to most of college basketball's purists. Talented, deep and oh, so confident. All nine in the Wildcats rotation will be drafted in the NBA, the only questions are whether it's this June or next and which round. Karl Anthony-Towns has established himself as a dominant half-court offensive player and the go-to-guy for Kentucky. Michigan State and

Tom Izzo have that blue-collar, lunch-pail spirit. The trio of Travis Trice, Branden Dawson and Denzel Valentine have proved that toughness is as valuable a skill as any in the basketball arsenal.

This Wisconsin team with upperclassmen filling the stat sheet comprised mainly of three- and four-star recruits from the suburbs has the backing of America's heartland. Frank Kaminsky's rise from a three-star recruit from Benet Academy to National Player of the Year gives inspiration to every late bloomer in America.

LEIGH KLEIN
@LeighAlanKlein
sports@metro.us



Players to watch

Kentucky: Quietly, Trey Lyles has become Mr. Indispensable. Lyles brings an offensive versatility — an ability to rebound, pass, drive the ball and distribute. When the 'Cats stall on offense look for Lyles to make the play that makes the play — he tips the ball in the right direction or forces the defense to react to his cut.



Duke: Matt Jones has been the spark of the team. He's contributed with active perimeter defense and timely outside shooting.

Key matchups

Kentucky vs. Wisconsin: Willie Cauley-Stein defending Frank Kaminsky. Mr. Defense, meet Mr. Offense. Two first team All Americans go head-to-head with incredibly unique skill sets. Look for Kentucky to make Kaminsky defend and get back in transition. Kentucky will force Kaminsky and co. to expend energy and put the ad-



KAMINSKY WAS THE BIG TEN
PLAYER OF THE YEAR.
ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

vantage to the deeper team.

Duke vs. Michigan State: Justise Winslow vs Branden Dawson. Two of the nation's best athletes, if they weren't on the hardwood, they could easily play on Sundays. Winslow has become Duke's most assertive player and the one who converts the big play in the big spot. Dawson can match the physicality.

NCAA

Kentucky close to perfection

Kentucky (38-0) has already set an NCAA record for the most wins in a single season but if they lose in the Final Four on Saturday (8:49 p.m., TBS) to Wisconsin or in the National Championship to either Duke or Michigan State on Monday (9 p.m., CBS) in Indianapolis, then it will only serve as a painful footnote. A look at which team is best poised to knock off Kentucky.

Wisconsin

The 'Cats are favored by five, but the Badgers have to like their chances at pulling off the upset given the way they match up with Kentucky, plus the added motivation of a heartbreak-



Willie Cauley-Stein and
Kaminsky remain unbeaten.
GETTY IMAGES

ing 74-73 loss to them in last year's Final Four. You wouldn't normally think that the Badgers can match

up athletically with the NBA-draft-prospect-laden Wildcats, but Wisconsin has some elite talent. Senior forward Frank Kaminsky should win the Wooden Award, and he's played like that in the NCAA Tournament, scoring 29 points and six rebounds against Arizona.

Duke

If Kentucky gets by Wisconsin again, they'd similarly have their hands full with the Blue Devils. Freshman center Jahliel Okafor has gotten much of the attention and a matchup between him down low with Kentucky freshman Karl-Anthony Towns and junior Willie Cauley-Stein would be a juicy storyline. Unlike John Calipari's program, Duke isn't known as

much for one-and-dones, but they have two other guys that could be gone after their freshman seasons: Forward Justise Winslow and guard Tyus Jones could be NBA-bound at the end of the season.

Michigan State

Finally, as a No. 7 seed, the Spartans are the only team that was not at all expected to make it this far. The Spartans are a five-point underdog against Duke. If they pulled off that first upset, they would be a double-digit underdog against Kentucky. Senior guard Travis Trice is a winner who always makes Michigan State dangerous, but it's tough to think they could go through both Duke and Kentucky.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
Fiscal Year 2016 Operating Budget and Fiscal Years 2017 - 2021 Financial Plan
 The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) has scheduled public hearings on SEPTA's Proposed Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2016 (Fiscal Year 2016) and Five Year Financial Plan.

The hearings will be held as follows:

Bucks County Free Library
 Pearl Buck Room
 150 S. Pine Street
 Doylestown, PA 18901
Monday, April 20, 2015 - 2:00pm & 6:00pm

Delaware County Court House
 County Council Meeting Room 1st Floor
 201 W. Front Street
 Media, PA 19063
Wednesday, April 22, 2015 - 2:00pm & 6:00pm

Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority
 Board Room - Mezzanine Level
 1234 Market Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19107
Tuesday, April 21, 2015 - 11:00am & 5:00pm

Montgomery County Human Services Center
 Community Room - Main Floor
 1430 Dekalb Street
 Norristown, PA 19404
Thursday, April 23, 2015 - 2:00pm & 6:00pm

West Chester Borough Hall Council Chambers
 401 E. Gay Street
 West Chester, PA 19380
Friday, April 24, 2015 - 2:00pm & 6:00pm

Persons wishing to file written comments may forward them to the Office of the General Manager, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, 1234 Market St., 10th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107 by April 29, 2015 so that they may be forwarded to the Hearing Examiner. Comments can also be sent via E-mail to hearing.comments@septa.org.

Persons desiring to present extensive comments and testimony are encouraged to do so in writing as the time for individual testimony may be limited in order to accommodate all who wish to speak.

SEPTA will provide a sign language interpreter at the public hearings upon written request received no later than April 1, 2015. Written requests can be mailed to the Office of the General Manager at the address above.

Members of the public may obtain a copy of the proposed Operating Budget and Financial Plan at SEPTA's website www.septa.org or by requesting a copy in writing from the Office of the General Manager at the address listed above.

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NBA pickups

Players to add this week:

- **Justin Hamilton, C, T'Wolves** — Hamilton is getting 25-plus minutes per game.
- **Dennis Schroder, PG, Hawks** — When/if this German import gets his nicked toe right, he'll be a top-40 player for the final few games.
- **John Henson, PF, Bucks** — Owners category-hunting for blocks can add Henson and expect a fistful of them despite limited minutes.



DENNIS SCHRODER
 GETTY IMAGES

DON'T CARE ABOUT ART OF THE CLOSE

The baseball equivalent of "late-round quarterback" is "don't pay for saves."

It's an effective strategy because of how volatile the position is. Last year, 49 different pitchers recorded at least five saves and 39 shut the door 10 times. The league leader in saves, Fernando Rodney, was one of the last relievers selected on fantasy draft day. Francisco Rodriguez went from a setup role in April to finish with 44 saves, and Zach Britton went from trading block to middle relief to eighth inning to 37 saves very quickly. The list goes on and on. So we know we're not going to spend a high pick on a closer. But who should we be looking at in the later rounds?



Tyler Clippard was with the Nationals from 2008-14 but is now in Oakland. / GETTY IMAGES

The Oakland Clipper

Injuries are the first place we can find value. Athletics closer Sean Doolittle is rehabbing a torn rotator cuff in his pitching shoulder, a potentially disastrous injury. The team believes he can come back sometime in May, but that's far from a certainty. What we do know is Tyler Clippard is a flyball pitcher playing in Oakland's cavernous park, holds a career 2.88 ERA, will hold down the closer's job until Doolittle returns

and can be had in the 16th round or so.

Trade winds blowing

The Phillies finally appear committed to a desperately needed rebuild and Jonathan Papelbon is likely on the way out of town. Enter Ken Giles, who has some of the nastiest stuff in the league and is the heir apparent. Giles can still help deep leaguers, even before Papelbon is dealt, via the strikeout category.

Breeding competition

Muddled bullpens sink relievers' average draft positions (ADP). That's the case in Houston, where Luke Gregerson has predictably emerged from Chad Qualls/Pat Neshek and won the closer role.



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Women's basketball

Temple women in NIT semis

On a day where the Temple men's basketball team hoped to compete for an NIT championship, their female counterparts are still looking to keep the dream of a Philly title alive.

Temple (20-16) will square off against the Mountaineers (22-14) at

WVU Coliseum at 7 p.m. in the Final Four of the WNIT.

Owls senior Tyonna Williams led the Owls with 23 points, five assists, and six boards in their quarterfinals win over Middle Tennessee.

A win advances Temple to the Finals, to be held Saturday at 3 p.m.

METRO

MLB

Geno rips men's game

UConn women's head coach Geno Auriemma says that college men's basketball has never been in worse shape and that the current product is "a joke."

"As a spectator watching it, it's a joke," Auriemma said. "The bottom line is, nobody

can score. And they'll tell you that it's because of great defense, great scouting, teamwork. Nonsense, nonsense. College men's basketball is so far behind the times it's unbelievable."

The NIT Tournament is currently experimenting with a 30-second shot clock, instead of the usual 35-second one.

METRO

NBA spoilers

76ers head to Charlotte Saturday

The 76ers obviously can't make any sort of playoff push as the NBA's season winds down.

But on Saturday night (7 p.m., CSN), they can act as spoilers in the heated race for eighth in the East when they travel to Char-



THE 76ERS' HAVE JUST SIX GAMES LEFT.

GETTY IMAGES

lotte to face the Hornets.

Charlotte is in a dog right fight with the Nets and Celtics, and others for the last spot in the East.

METRO

NFL. Newest Eagles trade rumor has Boykin going to Fins



Will Brandon Boykin be the next to go? / GETTY IMAGES

Did the trade rumor mill used to be this busy during the Andy Reid days?

While pondering that, consider this: Reports out of Miami have the Dolphins interested in one of Reid's draft picks, cornerback Brandon Boykin.

Boykin, small but solid in the nickel, may be too undersized for Chip Kelly's liking, so maybe the team would consider moving him.

It would likely be a draft-day move, to help the Dolphins cover if they miss out on one of their cornerback targets.

Here's how the Miami Herald's Armando Salguero sees it: "The Eagles, who one source tells me

are willing to trade just about anybody for the right compensation, are said to be willing to trade cornerback Brandon Boykin. I cannot independently confirm Boykin is on the market, but other "reports" say he is."

Boykin had six interceptions in 2013, tied for second most in the NFL, but his role dropped off considerably in 2014.

The Eagles also have similar talent in recently acquired Walter Thurmond III, and inked Byron Maxwell to play in the No. 1 spot.

Long story short: Hold off on adding a Boykin jersey to your collection of Eagles apparel.

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MLB pre-season power rankings | by Ryan Hannable

No. 1

Dodgers
(94-68)*

After falling in Game 7 of the ALDS to the Cardinals last season, the Dodgers are out for revenge. With a starting rotation featuring the dominant Clayton Kershaw, Zack Greinke, Hyun-Jin Ryu and Brandon McCarthy, you're likely not going to find a better staff in the majors.

*2014 records

No. 2

Nationals
(96-66)

Not only do the Nationals have one of the best young talents in the game in Bryce Harper, they went out and acquired an ace arm in Max Scherzer.

No. 3

Cardinals
(90-72)

The Cardinals have long been known for their pitching, but St. Louis landed Jason Heyward this off-season to help bolster its lineup. They're favorites in the NL Central.

No. 4

Mariners
(87-75)

The Mariners missed the playoffs by just one game last season. Big bopper Nelson Cruz should help Seattle's offense.

No. 5

Angels
(98-64)

The Angels won the AL West last season. There's no doubt they'll be good again. But how good, with the unknown status of Josh Hamilton?

No. 6

Giants
(88-74)

The defending world champs lost their third baseman. But with World Series MVP Madison Bumgarner leading the way, anything can happen.

No. 7

Pirates
(88-74)

Pittsburgh, led by Andrew McCutchen, has had a resurgence the past few seasons. He will get some help with Korean infielder Jung Ho Kang, who hit 40 homers in Korea last year.

No. 8

Royals
(89-73)

The Royals lost their ace in James Shields, so they will be in search for a new No. 1 starter. A return World Series trip will be difficult.

No. 9

Tigers
(90-72)

The Tigers are always close to or at the top of baseball in runs scored. The pitching staff is in rough shape with the losses of Max Scherzer and Rick Porcello.

No. 10

Blue Jays
(83-79)

The Blue Jays made some noise this offseason as they added Russell Martin and Josh Donaldson offensively. Many are picking them to win the AL East.

No. 11

Athletics
(88-74)

Oakland lost a boatload of talent and seems to be going with the philosophy of using young players with cheap contracts. Will it be enough to get back to the postseason?

No. 12

Red Sox
(71-91)

They should have one of the better lineups with Pablo Sandoval and Hanley Ramirez on board. But their success will depend on their pitching.

No. 13

Padres
(77-85)

Similar to the Red Sox, this team could be ranked higher with all the talent they acquired in a big off-season. But they haven't yet proven anything.

No. 14

Orioles
(96-66)

Led by Buck Showalter, the O's should once again be in the playoff mix this season. The loss of Nelson Cruz will hurt their offensive production for sure.

No. 15

Indians
(85-77)

The Indians were in the Wild Card hunt for much of last season and should be able to compete with for the division crown. Defending AL Cy Young winner Corey Kluber returns.

No. 16

Marlins
(77-85)

With a healthy Giancarlo Stanton, and not a dominant team in the NL East, the Marlins could be back making a postseason run.

No. 17

Cubs
(73-89)

Could this be the Cubs' year to turn things around? Cubs president Theo Epstein certainly helped his cause by landing free agent prize Jon Lester.

No. 18

Yankees
(84-78)

There are a ton of question marks here. The biggest concerns the health of the pitching staff and how Masahiro Tanaka and C.C. Sabathia will hold up.

At the ballpark

The Phillies have made some changes at Citizens Bank Park this year, here are a few things to know before the season opens next week.

- Wine and hard liquor will be available in the stadium, including the team's own special blend.
- The stadium will include Jake's Wayback Burgers in three locations throughout the concourses.
- Turkey Hill Creamery will be located in Ashburn Alley.
- State-of-the-art digital menu boards throughout the concourses.
- A new Chickie's & Pete's will be located on the 300 level.
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- Expanded internet access to encourage use of social media in the stadium.



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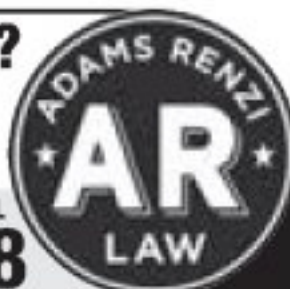
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